

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 953

asked on Tuesday 6 June 2006

MR WELLINGTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND WATER (MR PALASZCZUK)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the proposed 200 metre buffer zone around the proposed Traveston Dam—

What activities will be permitted in this buffer zone and, in particular, will houses be allowed to remain located in this area; if not, how close will houses be allowed to be located to the boundary of the proposed buffer zone?

ANSWER:

On 5 July 2006, the Queensland Government announced the staged development of the Traveston Dam and the raising of the Borumba Dam in the Mary River catchment to provide an additional 150,000 megalitres each year.

The three phases are:

- Construction of Traveston Dam by the end of 2011, but operating at Stage 1 elevation level of 71 metres;
- Raising Borumba Dam by 2025; and
- Operate Traveston Dam at elevation level of 79.5 metres, if required, by 2035.

Estimates are two stages will affect approximately 1000 properties. The operation of Traveston Dam at Stage 1 level will affect approximately 500 properties.

When the Government announced in April its intention to undertake preliminary investigations of the Traveston site, it included a nominal buffer of about 200 metres.

Properties within this nominal buffer zone, which is regarded as the maximum that would be required, have been taken into account in the aforementioned estimate of affected property numbers for the whole project and Stage 1.

In the course of undertaking the environmental impact studies required for the project, local management plans will be developed.

This plan will determine the size of any buffer zone and what activities that will be permitted in that area and adjacent to it. This work will be overseen by Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd.